CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1.      A method of managing resources in a network controller connecting to a plurality of interfaces comprising:

recognizing a transition in the phase of a call transported through said controller; and

modifying the size of the call record of said call in accordance with the type of phase transition recognized.

2.      A method according to claim 1, wherein recognizing includes:

receiving a call message for said call; and

processing said call message, said call message potentially indicating said phase transition.

3.      A method according to claim 2, wherein said call is a point-to-point call.

4.      A method according to claim 3, wherein said phase is one of idle, establishment, active and release phases.

5.      A method according to claim 4, wherein modifying includes:

3    discarding said call record if said transition is to the

4    idle phase.


1        6.    A method according to claim 4, wherein modifying

2    includes:

3        compressing said call record by removing establishment

4    phase related fields if said transition is from the

5    establishment phase to the active phase.


1        7.    A method according to claim 6, wherein modifying

2    includes:

3        expanding said compressed call record by adding release

4    phase related fields if said transition is from the active

5    phase to the release phase.


1        8.    A method according to claim 6 comprising:

2        completing the release of said call using said compressed

3    call record if said transition is from the active phase to the

4    release phase.


1        9.    A method according to claim 2, wherein said call is

2    a point-to-multi-point call.

1       10.  A method according to claim 9, wherein said phase is

2  one of idle, establishment, active, add party, drop party and

3  release phases.


1       11.  A method according to claim 10, wherein modifying

2  includes:

3       discarding said call record if said transition is to the

4  idle phase.


1       12.  A method according to claim 10, wherein modifying

2  includes:

3       compressing said call record by removing establishment

4  phase related fields if said transition is from the

5  establishment phase to the active phase.


1       13.  A method according to claim 12, wherein modifying

2  includes:

3       expanding said compressed call record by adding release

4  phase related fields if said transition is from the active

5  phase to the release phase.

14. A method according to claim 12 comprising:

completing the release of said call using said compressed call record if said transition is from the active phase to the release phase.

15. A method according to claim 12, wherein modifying includes:

expanding said compressed call record by adding add party phase related fields if said transition is from the active phase to the add party phase.

16. A method according to claim 15, wherein modifying includes:

compressing said expanded call record by removing add party phase related fields if said transition is from the add party phase to the active phase.

17. A method according to claim 12, wherein modifying includes:

expanding said compressed call record by adding drop party phase related fields if said transition is from the active phase to the drop party phase.

1    18.  A method according to claim 17, wherein modifying

2    includes:

3         compressing said expanded call record by removing drop

4    party phase related fields if said transition is from the drop

5    party phase to the active phase.


1    19.  A method according to claim 1, wherein said

2    interfaces define physical connections between the node in

3    which said controller resides and other nodes connected said

4    node in which said controller resides and define physical

5    connections between the node in which said controller resides

6    and user terminals belonging to said node in which said

7    controller resides.


1    20.  A system including a network switching controller

2    capable of supporting a plurality of interfaces, said

3    apparatus comprising:

4         a processor adapted to process call messages received on

5    said interfaces, and adapted to recognize said call's phase

6    transition; and

7         a memory coupled to said processor, said processor

8    modifying the size of the call record of said call as stored

9   in said memory in accordance with the type of phase transition

10  recognized.


1       21.   An article comprising a computer readable medium

2   having instructions which when executed manages resources in a

3   network controller connecting a plurality of interfaces, said

4   instructions when executed causing:

5       recognizing a transition in the phase of a call

6   transported through said controller; and

7       modifying the size of the call record of said call in

8   accordance with the type of phase transition recognized.


1       22.   An apparatus for managing resources in a network

2   controller having a plurality of interfaces comprising:

3       means for recognizing a transition in the phase of a call

4   transported through said controller; and

5       means for modifying the size of the call record of said

6   call in accordance with the type of phase transition

7   recognized.